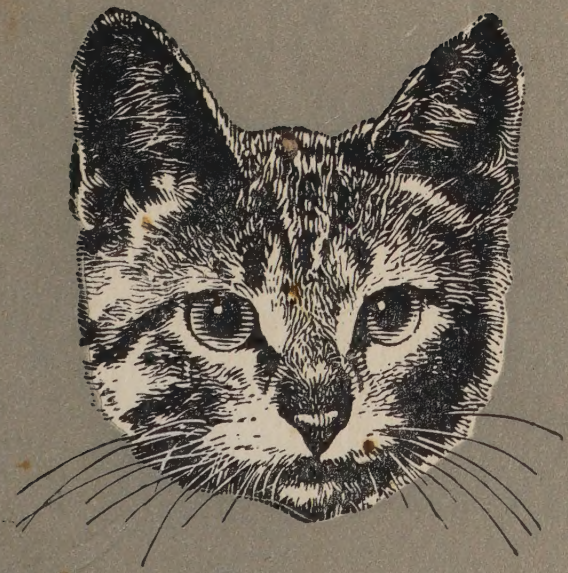
TIBS

Cat Book



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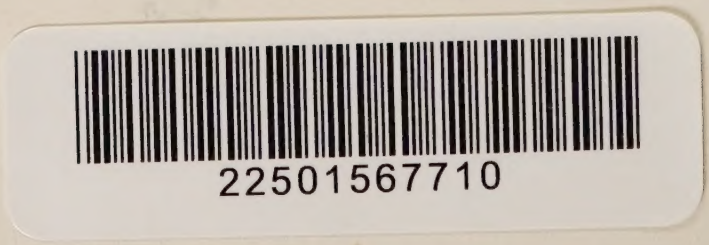
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TIBS

Cat Book

A RELIABLE GUIDE *to the* PROPER CARE *and* FEEDING *of* CATS *and their* TREATMENT *during* ILLNESS; *including Notes on the* HISTORY *and* EVOLUTION *of* CATS *through the Ages*

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SOUTHPORT:

Published by BOB MARTIN LIMITED

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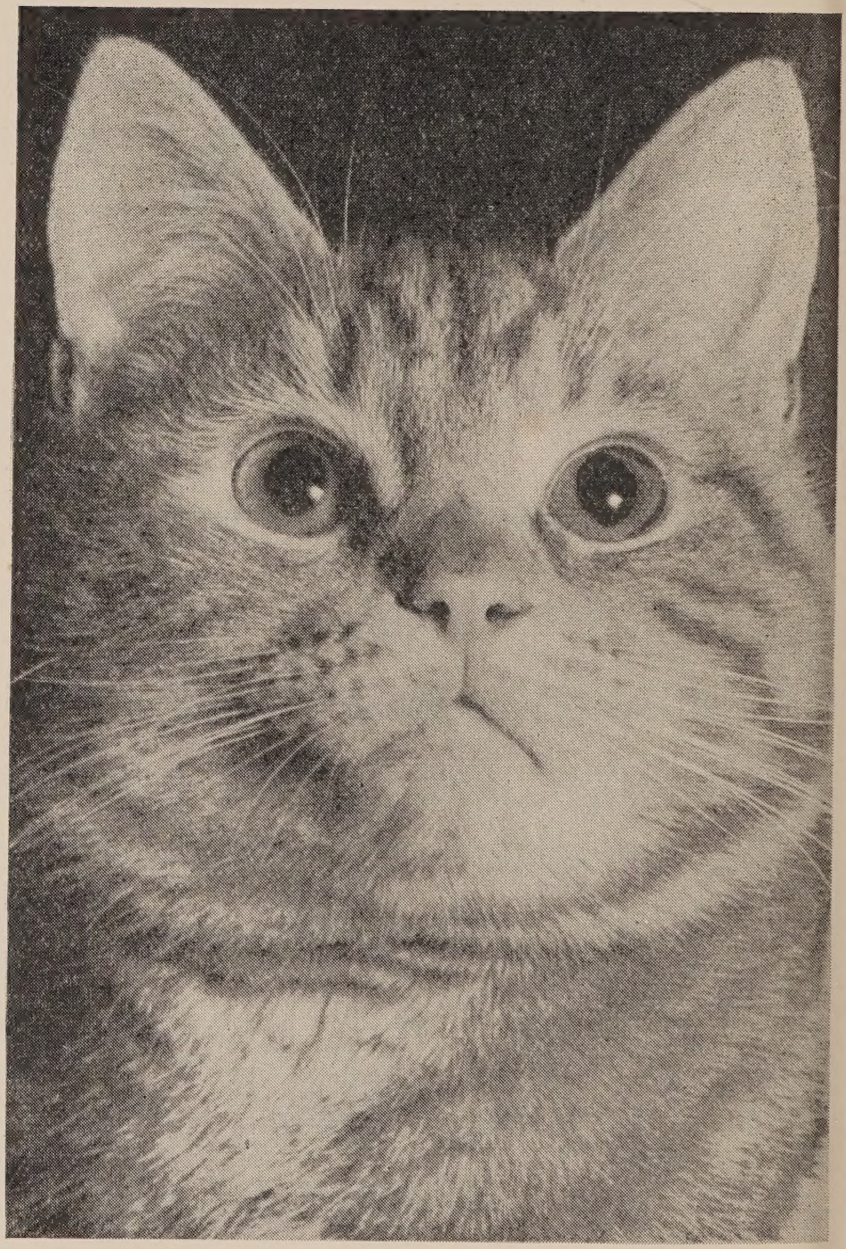

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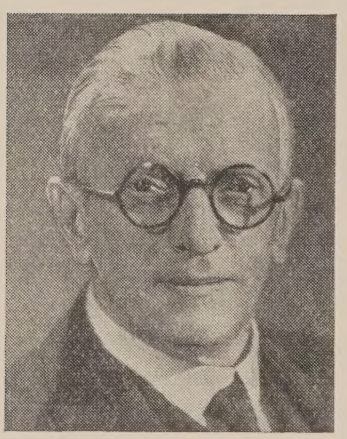
STATELY, *kindly, lordly friend*
Condescend
Here to sit by me, and turn
Glorious eyes that smile and burn,
Golden eyes, love's lustrous meed,
On the golden page I read.

All your wondrous wealth of hair,
Dark and fair,
Silken-shaggy, soft and bright
As the clouds and beams of night,
Pays my reverent hand's caress
Back with friendlier gentleness.

From "To a Cat" by A. C. Swinburne
(*Collected Poetical Works published by* WILLIAM HEINEMANN LTD.)

FOREWORD



THE 'Tibs' Cat Book has passed through three editions and has now been revised and brought up to date, in line with the findings of constant research in the Bob Martin Laboratories, and careful analysis of the thousands of letters requesting the help of our Advisory Department.

Remember that your cat, in the manner of his kind, leads a private life of his own : and it is so easy to fail to notice the little signs of approaching ill-health. Cats suffer in silence until the complaint gradually becomes much more serious.

Yet it is an easy matter to keep a cat always in beautiful condition. His wants are few and to take care of him is simple. In the following pages you will find valuable guidance on the everyday needs of your cat, and details of what to do on those rare occasions when he is ill.

Bob. Martin.

FOUNDER

THE TALE OF THE CAT

CATS have been civilised nearly as long as mankind. Two thousand years before Christ the ancient Egyptians kept tame cats, which in the tomb pictures of the period can be seen eating fish and chasing birds. Even at that time domestic cats received the attention and respect they enjoy today. Believing that all cats went to heaven, the Egyptians built a special cemetery where they placed the mummified remains of their pets. The goddess Bubastis had a cat's head, as well as a playful nature; and at the festival of Bubastis thousands of cat-worshippers took the opportunity to hail their deity in the rollicking manner she would surely approve.

The veneration of cats was not peculiar to the Egyptians. In an early Roman household the whole family would mourn the loss of a tame cat by shaving their eyebrows. It is said that Maho-

EGYPTIAN MUMMIFIED CATS

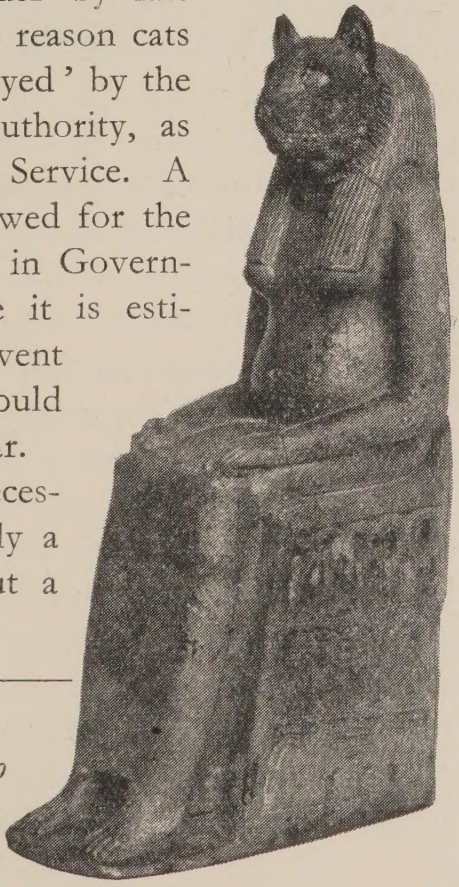
met once cut off the skirt of his garment, rather than disturb the cat which lay sleeping on it. In his *Life of St. Gregory the Great*, Jacobus Diaconus tells us that the great Christian "possessed nothing in the world except a cat, which he carried in his bosom, frequently caressing it, as his sole companion."

One of the earliest cat-lovers in this country must have been Hywel Dda, Prince of South Wales, who in the year 936 A.D. made a special law for the protection of cats. He controlled the price of a kitten at one penny when blind, two

pennies when the eyes were open, and four pennies when the kitten had caught its first mouse. The penalty for killing a cat was the following fine: enough wheat to cover the body of the dead cat, one milch ewe, fleece and lamb. The fine was paid to the owner.

Then, as now, there was a commonsense reason for the protection of cats. For centuries they have safeguarded the granaries and food stores of the world against plunder by rats and mice. For this reason cats are officially 'employed' by the Port of London Authority, as well as by the Civil Service. A special grant is allowed for the maintenance of cats in Government offices, where it is estimated that they prevent damage which would cost £4,000,000 a year.

The 'harmless, necessary cat' is not only a good companion but a good citizen too.

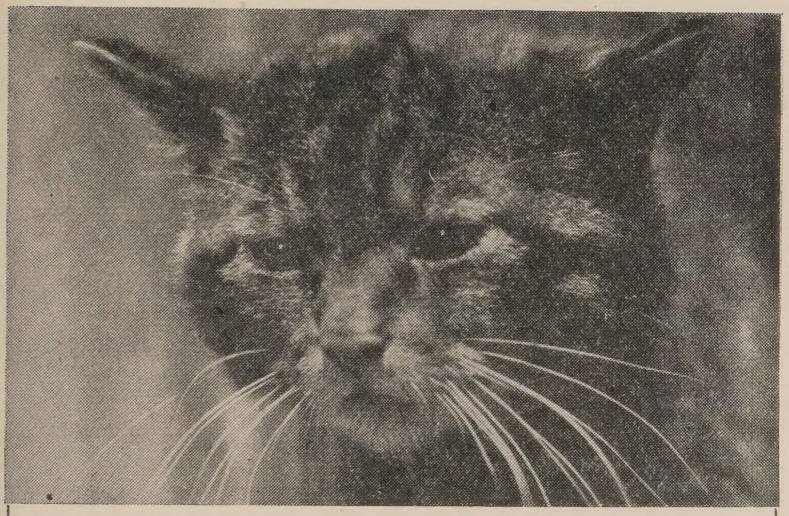


Statue of Egyptian goddess Bubastis, also known as The Bast.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE CAT

THE cats which the ancient Egyptians tamed and worshipped were the Egyptian race of the African wild cat (*Felis ocreata maniculata*). Domestic cats as we know them today are very likely a cross between the Egyptian breed and the European wild cat (*Felis catus*), and are thought to retain certain characteristics of both breeds. This crossing may have occurred long before the Christian era, when the Phoenician traders imported Egyptian tame cats into Italy. The expansion of the Roman Empire was no doubt responsible for the distribution of tame cats throughout Europe. Remains of cats—probably of the domestic variety—have been excavated from Roman villas at Silchester and Dursley.

This theory of the origin of domestic cats is supported by naturalists on the following grounds. In the European wild cat, black spots are to be found on the soles of the hind feet. In the Egyptian wild cat, however, the soles of the hind feet are entirely black—a notable characteristic of the darker varieties of the domestic cat. Nevertheless, the true origin of domestic cats is somewhat obscure. They may very well claim as ancestors several other wild varieties, including the Desert



EUROPEAN WILD CAT, *now practically extinct in the British Isles except in certain remote Scottish forests.*

Cat of India, the Rusty-Spotted Cat, the Leopard Cat, and even certain Chinese breeds.

The European wild cat is seldom found in Britain today, except in certain Scottish forests. In appearance it is somewhat like the familiar tabby, though much larger and extremely fierce. Like all cats, it is a carnivorous animal, living mainly on hares, rabbits, rats, moles and birds.

Incidentally, the so-called Royal Cat of Siam was never bred exclusively by the King of Siam, as many people still believe. Siamese cats are rare in all parts of that country, and their origin is obscure. But the albino forms are greatly revered by the Siamese, who believe that Buddha may return to earth as a light-coated animal.

HOW WILD IS A DOMESTIC CAT ?

LET us suppose that you own a common black cat of unknown ancestry. He has a fine glossy coat, keen bright eyes. He is alert, playful, and although the mice may consider his sense of fun in doubtful taste, everyone else has a pretty soft spot for him.

So far as you can see, he is a picture of health. But if he could speak to you, he might say something like this : " I'm what is known as a domestic cat—whatever that may be. True, I sit on cushions, bask in front of fires, and generally give the place a homely look. But when it comes to *eating*, I'm no more domesticated than a tiger. Your ' civilised ' food is very tasty, but you've no idea what trouble it sometimes gives me . . . "

The fact is that domestic cats seldom get enough of those correctives which cats in their natural

state get from herbs and certain grasses. 'Civilised' diet does not provide these essential aids to health.

WHY CATS NEED 'TIBS'

LACK of these essentials in diet leaves cats susceptible to gastric troubles. Because they wash themselves with their tongues, they inevitably swallow a certain amount of loose hair—especially during the moulting season. This tends to form an indigestible 'hairball' in the stomach which upsets the digestion and sometimes leads to serious illness.

The first signs that your cat is out of sorts are mopiness, listlessness, a dull coat, poor appetite—but very often these appear too late. Cats will suffer acute pain before they show the slightest sign of ill-

health. That is why "a 'Tibs' a day" is the golden rule of health for cats. The "health giving" properties of 'Tibs' enable your cat to cope with his 'civilised' diet. The mild laxative action helps him to expel any swallowed hair. His blood is purified and enriched, his coat kept firm and lustrous. When he purrs, he means it.

It's easy to give your cat his daily 'Tibs'. Just sprinkle it over his food or mix it with his drink —he will take it readily. Many cats *like* 'Tibs,' or seem instinctively to know they need it.

THE WHITTINGTON LEGEND

THE pantomime story of Dick Whittington, poor ill-treated orphan whose only friend was his cat, is not founded on fact. The real Richard Whittington was a prosperous London mercer of good family who lent large sums of money to Henry IV and Henry V. He did, however, become Lord Mayor of London three times—in 1397, 1406 and 1419

The Whittington Stone

The legend of a cat which brings fame and fortune to its owner also occurs in Persian, Danish and Italian folk-lore. Nevertheless the Whittington legend was widely believed to be true. On Highgate Hill a large stone still marks the spot where Dick was supposed to have heard Bow Bells, and nearby there are two public houses called *The Whittington Stone* and *The Whittington and Cat*.

COMMON SENSE ABOUT CAT FEEDING

CATS are carnivorous animals. In their wild state they live on hares, rabbits, rats, mice and birds. That is why the perfect diet for domestic cats consists mainly of beef, liver, rabbit, fowl and fish. Nowadays, of course, it is practically impossible to provide your cat with enough of these foods, except fish; and it is wise therefore to include horse-flesh in the diet. If the meat is really fresh—'fit for human consumption'—it can be given raw, but generally it should be boiled. All offal such as lights (which most cats enjoy) must be boiled.

Fish should always be cooked, and if fish heads are available be sure to boil them well. Always remove all fish bones. Similarly, if you can spare a piece of rabbit or fowl for your cat, remove all bones. There is always the risk of a bone becoming stuck in the throat across the roof of the mouth or even lodged between the teeth; and if a small bone is swallowed it may

pierce the intestines. A large bone, however, may safely be given and it will help to keep your cat's teeth clean and strong. One more word of warning: never give your cat an empty food tin to lick, as his head may get caught in the tin or cut on the sharp edges.

Other foods which should be included in the diet are small quantities of carrots and cooked green vegetables. But while there are certain general principles of cat feeding, there is no hard-and-fast set of rules. Like human beings, cats have varying tastes. Some cats are faddy about certain foods, others will eat almost any suitable food that is put before them. While one cat will not touch sardines, another may eat potatoes or even show a liking for fruit. Common sense, combined with observation of your cat's individual eating habits, is the best guide—in normal times.

Many cats like milk, but it is not a necessary part of their diet after weaning; wild cats never get a drop of milk after they leave their mothers. Needless to say, all cats need water.

If your cat is ill, give him light but nourishing food only. Since food taken willingly has more value than food given forcibly, it is more important to make the 'invalid diet' as tempting as possible. Milk or water should be left within easy reach of the patient except in cases where

sickness is present when too much water should not be given.

HOW MANY MEALS A DAY?

HERE again, common sense is the guide. Most grown cats thrive on two meals a day, but mother cats and kittens must, of course, be fed more often (see page 20). Health, age and other factors influence the appetite, and it is impossible therefore to adhere to a strict dietary routine. If your cat leaves half a normal meal uneaten, there is almost certainly something wrong with the food or with the health of the cat. Perhaps he finds the food distasteful, either because he has been given the same food too often or because it is not quite fresh. Perhaps the dish is not quite clean. Perhaps

he is being given too much food, or he is suffering from constipation or some other digestive trouble. Only by careful observation of your own cat will you find the answer. Even in feeding he is an individualist who makes certain demands on your patience and intelligence.

Sir John Tenniel's famous drawing of the Cheshire Cat in 'Alice in Wonderland.' (*Reproduced by permission of Macmillan & Co., Ltd., owners of the copyright.*)

DO CHESHIRE CATS GRIN?

NEEDLESS to say, cats from Cheshire are no more likely to grin than cats from anywhere else. The derivation of the phrase 'to grin like a Cheshire cat' is not known. It is thought to have originated at a time when Cheshire cheeses were made in the shape of cats which appeared to be grinning. The expression, like many others, was popularised by Lewis Carroll:

'Please would you tell me,' said Alice a little timidly . . . 'why your cat grins like that?'

'It's a Cheshire cat,' said the Duchess, 'and that's why.'

— ALICE IN WONDERLAND, *chap. vi.*

GENERAL CARE AND HOUSING

"It's time to put the cat out." This common English expression might serve as a grim epitaph to many unfortunate cats. Some people still believe that cats are such hardy creatures that they can safely spend a night in the open in any weather. This is a fallacy. Cats are extremely susceptible to damp and cold. Not only should they be kept in the house at night, but they should also be provided with a warm sleeping-place that is free from draughts. If you do not wish to buy a basket for your cat, a wooden box with the front cut out will make him a comfortable bed. Cover the floor of the box with soft paper or an old blanket. Change the paper at least once a week, or if you use a blanket, shake it well every day and hang it out to air. Your cat's bedding is a perfect breeding ground for fleas, which are known to be the commonest source of tape worms.

Even the problem of sanitary arrangements is no real objection to keeping a cat indoors at night. A well-trained cat has no need to go out at night, though the provision of a suitable receptacle is necessary. This should be a large enamelled tray or pen. It should be liberally covered with dry earth or sawdust, which *must* be changed every day. It is also important to wash the pan frequently with an efficient disinfectant (not carbolic). Cats are naturally clean in their habits, and only become 'dirty' when confined to the house too long or when their sanitary needs are neglected.

Although they wash themselves with scrupulous care, cats derive much benefit from regular grooming with a brush and comb. Grooming removes the loose hairs which they would otherwise swallow in washing, often with serious results (see page 26).

Your cat can clean every part of his body except the inside of his ears ; and dirty ears lead to canker and other ailments. So clean your cat's ears regularly, using a soft rag dipped in olive oil ; and as a precaution against the parasitic form of canker an occasional treatment with 'Tibs' Canker Powder is advisable.

Finally, remember that cats are much more nervous and sensitive than most people think. Never

lift your cat by the scruff of his neck. Pick him up by his body, supporting his hindquarters with one

WRONG

RIGHT

hand. If you are brushing him or giving him medicine, be sure to handle him gently and avoid sudden jerky movements. Never smack him.

FREE ADVICE ABOUT YOUR CAT

The Bob Martin Advisory Service gives free advice on any problem concerning the care and management of cats and kittens.

If you have a problem, do not hesitate to write, giving the cat's age, sex and general nature and its diet. It is also important to us to know of any outstanding points that you feel may give us a full understanding of the case. Address your letter to Janet East, Advisory Dept., Bob Martin Ltd., Southport, Lancs., and enclose a 2½d. stamp for reply.

CAT BREEDING

If you are thinking of taking up cat breeding as a serious hobby, write for full particulars to the Secretary of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, F. H. Thompson, 130 Wickham Way, Beckenham, Kent.

YOUR CAT AND HER FAMILY

MOTHER cats or "queens" can have two or three litters of kittens a year. The health and sturdiness of the kittens will depend largely upon the food that the queen receives during the period of gestation. It is essential, therefore, to see that her diet is light, digestible and as nourishing as possible. Mince should be given, and the amount of food slightly increased. Milk should also be provided, and half a teaspoonful of cod liver oil should be given three times a week during the last fortnight.

A queen should not be allowed to breed before the age of 9 to 12 months and should not have more than two litters a year, though she is normally in season three times a year. If, however, she is not mated she may be in season much more frequently. In caring for a queen in kitten, bear in mind that towards the end of this period she should not be fondled or patted unduly, or

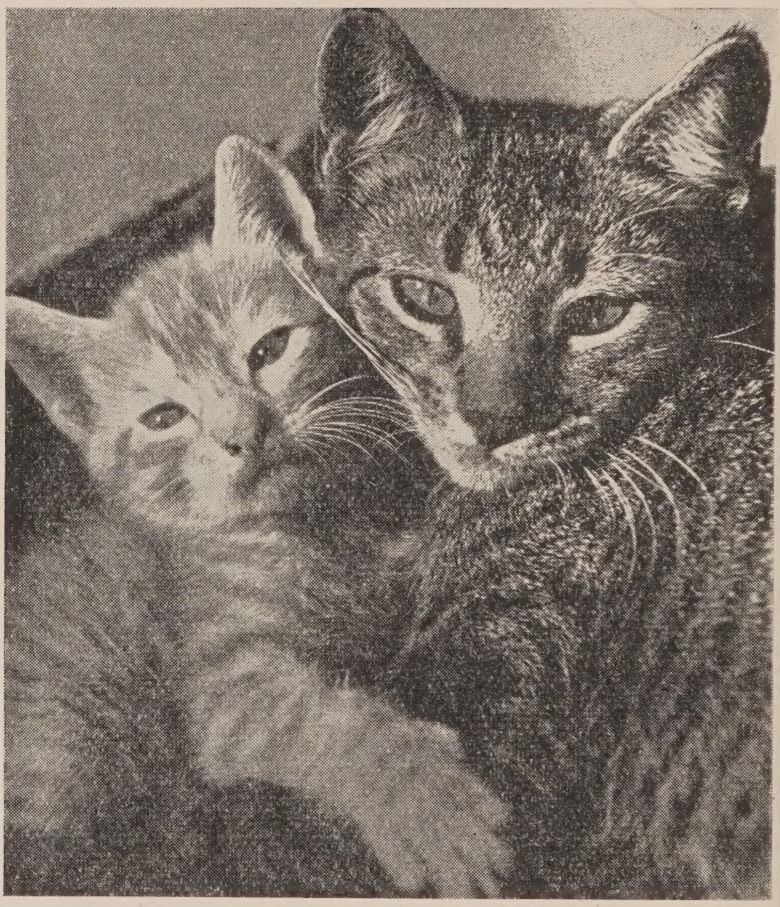
allowed to jump from high places such as windows. You should do everything possible to keep up her strength.

'Tibs' Cat Powders are of immense value during this period. They help the queen to maintain perfect health and to gain the greatest possible benefit from her food. This is vitally important, as she is now supporting not one life but several.

The average time for delivery is between 55 and 62 days from mating, but do not be alarmed if the cat fails to give birth on the exact day. It is not uncommon for kittens to be born two days after the time stated, but those born earlier are apt to be delicate. If you suspect any complications, you should obtain the help of a Veterinary Surgeon. As the time approaches, provide the queen with a clean comfortable bed where she may bear her kittens without being disturbed. She may, of course, disregard the bed provided and have her kittens in the corner under the chair; but at least you will have done your best to be helpful.

NEW-BORN KITTENS

NEW-BORN kittens should never be handled or placed in a bright light until they are at least ten days old. By this time their eyes will have opened. If left to her discretion, the mother cat will bring them into the light when she thinks fit.



For the first few weeks after birth it is better for kittens to be naturally fed, but in cases where the cat is not able to feed her kittens, or where a foster mother cannot be obtained cow's milk should be given. This should not be diluted and since it is not as strong as the mother's milk, a little extra fat in the form of butter or margarine together with a little sugar or medicinal glucose

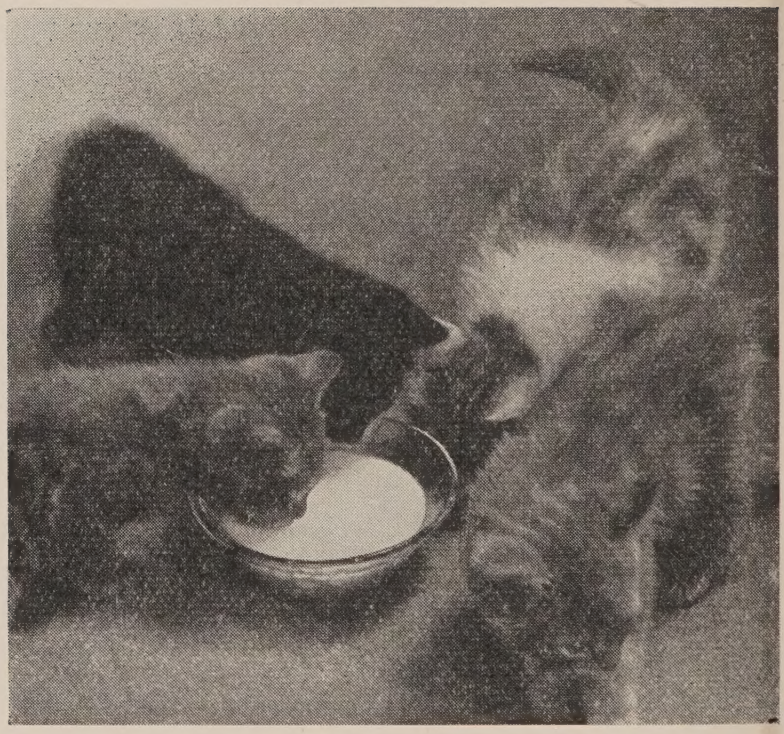
should be added. (Melt the butter and sugar in a saucepan, then add the milk and stir until thoroughly mixed. Allow to cool to suitable temperature.)

When kittens are about three or four weeks old they should begin to lap lukewarm milk from a saucer, but sometimes they need a little encouragement. This is what to do. Put a little milk on your finger and persuade the kitten to lick it, then place a saucer of milk under his head and dip the finger in the milk again and let him lick it off, and then gently push his head until his mouth is just above the surface of the milk. This may be repeated several days before the kitten will learn to lap on his own. When kittens are six or seven weeks old weaning should be complete.

INDEPENDENT FEEDING

TEACHING a kitten to eat solid food is a gradual process. The stomach of a kitten at three months old is not even as big as a walnut; and for this reason meals should be small but given frequently —say, every four hours.

Generally the best age to start weaning kittens is four weeks, though it is sometimes wise to begin a week earlier if the litter is large. For two weeks only they should be kept on liquid milk food. Goat's milk is specially recommended because it



is extremely rich and not unlike their own mother's milk. To aid digestion the addition of a few drops of lime water is recommended.

When five or six weeks old, kittens can take a little well-cooked meat or fish (See page 13). This should be finely minced and only small quantities should be given. It is impossible, however, to lay down strict rules on weaning. Some kittens take readily to independent feeding, while others are nervous of new and strange foods. *Never* give a kitten more than it can eat with relish at one time.

STERILISING

QUEENS can be sterilised or speyed to prevent "season" complications and breeding. Tom-cats can also be "doctored" or neutered. In both cases the operation must be carried out by a qualified veterinary surgeon. The best ages for sterilisation are between 3 and 4 months for both males and females.

WORMING

IF a queen shows any signs of worm infestation it is advisable that she be wormed about a fortnight after mating and again a week later, otherwise the kittens may also be infested with these pests. Never worm a cat later than three weeks after mating. 'Tibs' Worm Tablets are specially recommended.

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THEREFORE, how she beggeth, playeth, leapeth, looketh, catcheth, tosseth with her foote, riseth up to strings held over her head, sometime creeping, sometime lying on her back, playing with one foote, sometime on the bely, snatching, now with mouth, and anon with foote, apprehending greedily any thing save the hand of a man, with divers such gestical actions, it is needeless to stand upon : insomuch as Coelius was wont to say that being free from his Studies and more urgent waighty affairs, he was not ashamed to play and sport himselfe with a Cat.

EDWARD TOPSELL (died 1638?)
The Historie of Four-Footed Beastes.

THE GROOMING AND CLEANING OF CATS

Some owners feel that cats do not require grooming and cleaning. This is only partly true. Cats are generally clean creatures, but they require hand grooming as a protection against ill-health. This will be realised more clearly after reading the section which is devoted to the danger of loose hair on page 37. A regularly groomed cat will have a healthy glossy coat, and brushing and combing will help to keep it free from parasites. Since worms may enter a cat's system by the agency of fleas and lice, it is important that a cat should be kept free from these parasites. Persian or other long-haired cats should be brushed and combed every day.

Regular grooming with 'Preen' will help to keep your cat free from pests under ordinary conditions, but should he become infected, the use of 'Pestroy' as described on page 35 is recommended.

'Preen' is a fine antiseptic powder, and is specially made for the soft coats of cats. It should be sprinkled into the coat, and the cat should then be gently rubbed to ensure an even distribution of the powder. Finally the powder should be brushed out of the coat.

'Preen' penetrates deep into the thickest fur, keeps it healthy and firm to the roots. This prevents your cat from swallowing loose fur, which tends to form an indigestible 'hairball' in the stomach and may lead to serious illness. If the coat is matted, ease the knots with your fingers. Severe cases should first be treated by using a knitting needle or a steel comb, and it may even be necessary to cut away the knots with scissors. Since cats have very sensitive skins and are easily hurt, they should be gently handled during treatment.

Never wash a cat unless it is absolutely necessary. When bathing a cat, be sure to dry thoroughly afterwards. Cats can often be persuaded to wash themselves where necessary by rubbing the dirty areas with a little butter or margarine.

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WHEN I play with my cat, who knows whether I do not make her more sport than she makes me?

—MONTAIGNE, *Essays, Bk. ii, chap.* 12 (1580)

SICKNESS AND AILMENTS

WHEN your cat is ill or 'off colour,' observe his symptoms carefully, study the following notes and treat the patient accordingly. If you are in doubt as to the best course of treatment, consult a qualified veterinary surgeon.

ABSCESSES

Abscesses in cats are always serious. No attempt should be made to lance or dress one at home. A Veterinary Surgeon must always be consulted as soon as possible for in many cases either surgical treatment or penicillin is required. If neglected they may prove fatal.

ANAEMIA

Anaemia may be recognised by pale gums and the absence of energy. The cat always appears fatigued and usually has little appetite. Breathing may occasionally be laboured but usually is more or less normal. Give 'Tibs' three times daily for at least a month and feed carefully, including as much liver both cooked and raw as possible in the diet.

ASTHMA (*See Coughs and Colds*)

BAD BREATH

Bad breath may be due to gastric disturbances, infestation by worms, bad teeth, or kidney trouble. The sections on these complaints will be found to give further information on how to decide the cause of this trouble.

BALDNESS (*See Skin Diseases*)

BILIOUSNESS (*See Sickness*)

Bowels (*See Diarrhoea*)

Bronchitis (*See Coughs and Colds*)

Burns and Scalds

Place white lint covered with acriflavine jelly or moistened with picric acid solution on the affected part. When neither of these remedies are available, lint, soaked in strong cold tea, may be applied to the burn. When the inflammation has subsided apply '92 Ointment until the skin has healed and fur begins to grow. Consult a veterinary surgeon at once if the burns are extensive.

Canker of the Ear

There are three forms of canker of the ear—Parasitic (Otodectic), Wet and Dry. Of these the first mentioned is responsible for about 80% of the cases of ear canker in cats and it is a fact that probably 50—75% of the cats in this country suffer from this complaint.

In all cases the general symptoms are shaking the head, scratching the ear, which is very sensitive to touch and often feels hot; and sometimes holding the head on one side. Another symptom which is occasionally seen and is often very alarming is inco-ordinated gait—the cat staggers about as if drunk (this must not be confused with inco-ordination due to paralysis—*q.v.*). As soon as any of these signs are seen the ears should be carefully examined.

Parasitic canker is caused by a minute insect and there is usually a stiff brownish discharge. If a little of this discharge is examined under a pocket lens, the small insects will be seen moving about. To relieve this form of canker, dust a little 'Tibs' Canker Powder into the ear at intervals of three days. It must be realised that a cat when cured of this form of canker can very readily be re-infected by contact with another suffering from this complaint. It is therefore a good practice to dust the ears with 'Tibs' Canker Powder once a month as a preventive measure.

Wet Canker, which is less common in cats than in dogs is an eczematous condition and there is a wet running discharge. The treatment for this form of canker is to apply ' Tibs ' Canker Powder gently to the inside of the ear with a cone shaped piece of cotton wool. This should be carried out twice daily.

In Dry Canker there is no discharge and no parasites are present but the ear is hot, and there is a lot of irritation. Apply Bob Martin's Canker Lotion twice daily to the inside of the ear with a cone shaped piece of cotton wool. Continue the treatment for at least 10 days after the symptoms have subsided.

It should be mentioned that both Wet and Dry Canker require patience in their treatment and it may take some time before a relief can be effected.

Give ' Tibs ' 3 times daily for at least a fortnight to tone up the system.

Choking

Choking is often caused by a bone wedged in the cat's throat. In most cases all that is necessary is to hold the cat's upper jaw with the thumb and forefinger of the left hand, open the mouth with the second finger, and remove the bone with the first finger and thumb of the right hand.

Colds (*See Coughs and Colds*)

Conjunctivitis (*See Eye, Inflammation of*)

Constipation

Constipation may be due to one of several causes—the diet may be unsuitable, the cat may need more exercise or it may be a symptom of a more serious complaint. Care must be taken not to confuse constipation with difficulty in urination (see Cystitis).

Bob Martin's Aperient Powders safely and efficiently check sluggishness or irregularity of the bowels. If given according to the directions—in

milk or disguised in fish or meat—they are readily administered and will relieve constipation even of long standing without pain to the cat. They can safely be given to Queens in kitten.

Consumption (*See Tuberculosis*)

Coughs and Colds

(*a*) Asthma

Old and sometimes young cats occasionally suffer from asthma but the disease is not common in cats. The symptoms are difficulty in breathing, wheezing sounds, attacks of coughing at intervals and a dribbling of thick mucous. With asthma the attacks only occur intermittently (at intervals which vary from hours to weeks) and the cat appears quite healthy in between the attacks. It is rarely that a complete cure can be effected but relief can be given. Keep the cat as warm as possible and do not let him out in wet or very cold weather. 'Tibs' should be given three times daily and a little cod liver oil mixed with the food will help.

(*b*) Bronchitis

Bronchitis can be either chronic or acute. The first form usually troubles old cats but does not appear to affect their general health. It is not curable but 'Tibs' Cough Powders will give relief.

Acute Bronchitis is frequently a complication of Distemper or other diseases. If there is any sign of a rise in temperature give Bob Martin's Distemper Powders. The usual symptoms—difficulty in breathing, wheezing sounds, and dribbling from the mouth—can be relieved with 'Tibs' Cough Powders.

(*c*) Colds

Colds in cats are fairly common, the symptoms being a profuse watery discharge from the mouth, nose and eyes and there may be a slight loss of appetite. Colds usually last for several days and then the cat quickly returns to normal. Give Bob Martin's Dis-

temper Powders 3 times daily while the symptoms persist. If the symptoms remain after five or six days or the cat appears really ill from the beginning, it is possible that he is suffering from influenza or distemper, the sections on which should be consulted for further details.

(*d*) Pneumonia

Pneumonia may be either a primary disease or a complication of another disease particularly distemper. The symptoms are deep laboured breathing usually with the mouth open and there is a slight soft cough. The temperature often rises to 105 or 106 degrees F. A characteristic sign sometimes seen is that the cat will not lie on its side, but lies on its abdomen with its front paws stretched out in front as though it is making an effort to remove pressure from its chest.

If pueumonia is suspected a qualified veterinary surgeon should be consulted immediately.

Cuts and Scratches

Small cuts will heal quickly if treated with Bob Martin's '92 Ointment. If the cut is large and bleeds considerably do not apply iodine, but cut away the fur immediately around, cleanse the wound with moist, warm boracic lint and cover with a pad of dry boracic lint. The pad should be kept in place with a bandage.

Cystitis

Cystitis is very common in male cats and is caused by a blockage of the urethra with calculi or gravel. The signs of cystitis are as follows : The cat appears dull and frequently strains to pass urine—often crying out during the process. Food and drink are refused and in a few hours the cat may collapse. A veterinary surgeon should be consulted immediately if cystitis is suspected. If a male cat is seen straining himself always endeavour to discover whether the cause is constipation or cystitis.

Depraved appetite

Dirt eating or depraved appetite, though met with only rarely in cats is usually a sign that worms are present (see Worms, page 45).

Deafness

Deafness sometimes occurs in white cats and is due to constitutional defects, and this cannot be cured. It also occurs sometimes as the result of otodectic (parasitic) canker, acute catarrh, or old age. The treatment in the first two named conditions is of course to remove the primary cause.

Diarrhoea

Chronic diarrhoea sometimes affects Persian and Manx kittens and may persist for several months before it ceases. The cause in these cases is obscure. Bob Martin's Stomach Powder will sometimes minimise the symptoms.

Worms, colds, chills and diseases such as influenza may all be the causes of diarrhoea. In kittens it is often the result of a change of food when weaning. Keep the cat warm and dry and check the diarrhoea with Bob Martin's Stomach Powder. When the motions have become normal, put the cat on a light diet, with three small meals a day, rather than two large ones. The morning and evening meals should consist of milk ; well-boiled fish may be given for the main meal every day. If the diarrhoea recurs give Bob Martin's Stomach Powder before meals and reduce the quantity of drinking water. Persistent diarrhoea may also be the result of food poisoning.

Diphtheria

At one time it was popularly supposed that diphtheria in children was caused by contact with cats suffering from this complaint. It can now be said quite definitely that this is *not* so, and that while cats do occasionally suffer from a form of diphtheric throat—often associated with distemper—this is not communicable to children (or adults).

Distemper

Distemper is an acute infectious disease which is characterised by a high temperature, discharge from the eyes and nose, foul breath and diarrhoea. Frequently the interior of the mouth is discoloured. The condition may be complicated by coughs, bronchitis, etc. The condition is serious and careful nursing in a warm place is necessary. Bob Martin's Distemper Powders must be given as long as there is any sign of an elevated temperature, and while there is any diarrhoea Stomach Powder must also be given—twice a day if there is no sickness ; or if sickness is present, after every vomit. The eyes and nose and mouth should be cleared with normal saline solution (1 teaspoonful of salt in a pint of lukewarm water).

Dropsy

Dropsy is not a disease in itself but is caused by some other serious disease usually due to an affection of the kidneys, liver, heart or to tubercular peritonitis. The signs of dropsy are the swelling of the abdomen which is very distended and if one hand is placed lightly on one side and the other side tapped with the fingers the 'thrill' of the disturbed fluid may be felt. Usually it is accompanied by marked wasting of the muscles of the spine. Treatment, if any, should be directed to the causal condition but in most cases it is incurable.

Ear, Canker of (*See Canker*)

Ear Swellings (*Haematoma*)

Swellings of the ear are sometimes found in cases of neglected canker, particularly in old cats. There is a swelling inside the ear which is usually distorted in shape. Surgical attention by a veterinary surgeon is necessary.

Eczema (*See Skin Complaints*)

Eye, Inflammation of

Conjunctivitis may result from the entrance of foreign bodies, sand, etc., or from exposure to cold and draughts, or may accompany such complaints as bronchitis or influenza. Watery matter is discharged and appears to glue the eye-lids together. Clean the eye by bathing gently with a normal saline solution (made by dissolving a teaspoonful of salt in a pint of lukewarm water) before instilling Bob Martin's Eye Drops, one drop into each eye. Keep the cat in good health with a course of 'Tibs.' Do not allow the cat to sleep in a draught.

Fits

Fits in cats are comparatively rare but when they do occur they can be extremely disturbing to watch.

The patient should be kept quiet and care should be taken to ensure that a light diet only is given. Examine the excreta for evidence of worm infestation, for worms are the most usual cause of fits in cats. See page 45.

Fleas

Cats sometimes harbour fleas and other insects in their fur. Apart from the inconvenience to the cat and the unpleasantness of having a cat so infested about the house, it must be remembered that pests are a serious menace to health. Fleas are frequently the bearers of worm infestation. 'Pestroy' is an ideal insecticide which will rid a cat of fleas and other external parasites. It is exceptionally powerful. When using Pestroy the cat's fur should be brushed the wrong way, a little at a time, and the powder sprinkled in so as to penetrate to the skin. After 30 minutes the Pestroy must be brushed out again together with any dead insects. Care should be taken not to leave any untreated areas. Take care that the cat does not inhale any of the powder and do not let him lick his coat before all the powder has been brushed out. Never use Pestroy on nursing queens as the kittens may lick off the powder and ill effects may result;

neither should it be used on kittens under 2 months old.

Remember that although you have cleared your cat of fleas he can easily become re-infested, especially during the warmer months of the year, so that it is a good practice to use Pestroy every month even if you do not see any fleas.

Fur-ball (*See Loose Fur*)

Indigestion (*See Sickness*)

Inflammation of the Bowels (*See Diarrhoea*)

Inco-ordination of Gait

The cat staggers about as though drunk and cannot co-ordinate his movements. This may be a symptom of either Canker or Paralysis, which sections should be consulted for further information.

Infectious Enteritis

This disease is highly infectious and any cat suspected of contracting it must be isolated and all other cats kept away. It is frequently fatal within 24 hours and has a very high mortality rate.

A cat suffering from infectious enteritis becomes dull and is always sick. At first the vomit is a clear mucous fluid but within a few hours this changes to a yellow froth. This is very characteristic of the disease. There is no diarrhoea and the temperature is often subnormal. Sometimes there is pain on pressure of the abdomen and the cat often crouches and cries particularly if touched.

If infectious enteritis is suspected a qualified veterinary surgeon should be consulted immediately.

Influenza

The symptoms of this disease are similar to those of Distemper (which see) but are milder—the temperature is not as high and the discharges from nose and eyes are less. Treatment is similar to that described for Distemper.

Jaundice

Jaundice occurs sometimes in cats and is usually due to eating infected rats (leptospiral jaundice). The Symptoms are a discolouring and yellowing of the eyes, gums, the inside of the mouth and sometimes the skin. There may be lassitude, collapse or sickness. Infectious enteritis may also give rise to some of these symptoms. A veterinary surgeon should always be consulted.

Lice

Although by no means as common as infestation with fleas, it is possible for a cat to have these parasites. The treatment is exactly as described under 'Fleas.'

Loose Fur

The condition of the cat's fur depends largely upon the general health of the cat. The moment digestive disturbances occur, impurities begin to contaminate the blood, and the roots of the hair become undernourished and loose. Except during the half-yearly moult loose hair therefore is one of the first and surest signs that a cat needs attention. It should be emphasised that loose fur is a danger to all cats. It accumulates on the tongue when the cat cleans itself and passes to the stomach forming an indigestible clot called a 'fur-ball.' This may be vomitted or may induce sickness while being retained in the stomach. If a furball is suspected it is advisable to consult a veterinary surgeon. Furballs are found most frequently in the long haired cats such as Persians.

Mange (*See Skin Complaints*)

Mouth, Inflammation of

This condition is fairly common in cats and the only signs may be red inflamed gums, but spots on the gums or tongue can sometimes be seen. The mouth is very tender and there is often a tendency to dribble. Food is often refused although the cat may be hungry. Bob Martin's Stomach Powder should be made into a paste with water and the mouth swabbed with this.

Paralysis

Paralysis in the cat is comparatively rare. There are three principal causes of paralysis in cats : (*a*) Result of injury ; (*b*) Old age ; (*c*) Vitamin B1 deficiency ; If resulting from an injury, surgical treatment by a qualified veterinary surgeon is required, but if due to old age or Vitamin B1 deficiency, it is essential that an ample supply of Vitamin B1 be provided. This can most easily be given in the form of Aneurin Hydrochloride (Vitamin B1) Tablets, giving one 3-milligram tablet daily.

Do not confuse paralysis with inco-ordination when walking due to otodectic canker (see this section for further details, page 29).

Pneumonia (*See Coughs and Colds*)

Poisoning

Cases of poisoning in cats are very rare as usually the cat is very particular as to his choice of food. Sometimes a hungry cat may eat stale food which may make him sick but this is not a true case of poisoning. It is a fact that at least 95 per cent. of the cases of supposed poisoning are due to infectious enteritis, cystitis or other rapidly fatal diseases.

Cats being very fastidious will not normally eat any poison bait, but may on occasion eat a rat or a mouse which has been poisoned. Usually the amount

of poison is not sufficient to poison the cat and an attack of sickness is often the only result. But if it is known *for certain* that a cat has eaten rat poison, which usually contains phosphorus and the cat is sick, examine the vomit in the dark. If phosphorus is present it will glow. If poisoning is suspected a veterinary surgeon should be consulted immediately.

Pyorrhoea (*See Teeth*)

Rheumatism

An attack of rheumatism may occur suddenly or it may develop by slow degrees. It is not common in cats but when they are affected with rheumatism the cause is usually cold and damp conditions. It is always wise to rub down any cat which has been out in wet weather paying particular attention to the legs and feet. Other causes of rheumatism are pyorrhoea and septic teeth. A cat with rheumatism will appear to suffer pain when moving especially when going to lie down. There may be some lameness. It will be found that attacks of rheumatism are more acute after long rests, for instance first thing in the morning. Treatment consists of giving Bob Martin's Distemper Powders 3 times daily until the acute symptoms disappear when 'Tibs' should be given regularly for 2—3 weeks. Keep the patient in a warm dry place but not too near the fire, and feed on a light nourishing diet.

Ringworm (*See Skin Complaints*)

Scurf (Dandruff)

Give your cat a thorough grooming occasionally by brushing 'Preen' through the coat, this will help to keep him free from scurf, dandruff, and falling hair. Ensure that he is kept fit by giving him 'Tibs' regularly.

Sickness

Sickness in cats is less common than in dogs, except after "bolting" food due to greediness, and as a symptom of infectious conditions. Sickness due to disease may be caused by infectious enteritis (the possibility of which should never be overlooked when sickness is present) or to gastritis due to disease such as distemper, or to fur-ball and sometimes to kidney trouble.

(*a*) Fur-ball (*See Loose Fur, p.* 37)

(*b*) Gastritis

Gastritis is not common in the cat. It is an inflamed condition of the stomach and may be the accompaniment of diseases such as distemper. Vomiting is very frequent and the cat shows thirst for milk or water. The treatment is to give a dose of Bob Martin's Stomach Powder every time the cat is sick. While the sickness is very bad milk and water should be withheld but as it abates a teaspoonful or so at a time can be given.

(*c*) Indigestion (*Dyspepsia*)

This condition is more common in cats than in dogs. The cat goes off its food and will not eat except perhaps a few mouthfuls. The animal will often lick inanimate objects and it yawns frequently. There is usually no other symptom. The treatment for indigestion of this type is to give Aneurin Hydrochloride (Vitamin B1) tablets—3 milligrams daily. Doses of Bob Martin's Stomach Powder and a regular course of ' Tibs ' are also indicated.

(*d*) Infectious Enteritis (*See p.*14)

(*e*) Kidney Troubles

Sickness is frequently one of the symptoms of kidney trouble, the vomiting is, however, not as severe as with gastritis. There is normally a marked thirst but

again not as severe as with gastritis. The breath has an unpleasant odour. Treat by giving a dose of Bob Martin's Stomach Powder after every attack of sickness and restrict the drinking of milk and water.

Skin Complaints

Alopecia

Alopecia or loss of hair is a common condition in old cats and in queens after kittening. The skin appears smooth, clean and hairless and there is no irritation This condition is often more apparent under the abdomen. The treatment for this is to give 'Tibs' three times daily for 14—21 days and also to give 1 tablet of Thyroid (Thyroid Extract) 1 grain daily for 14 days. *Note* :-Thyroid is a scheduled poison and you will have to sign the Poison Book at your chemist. Nevertheless these tablets, in the dose recommended are a safe treatment for this condition, but keep the tablets away from children.

Dermatitis

This is a common skin complaint probably of Streptococcal origin, and it is frequently confused with mange and eczema by the cat owner. It is very difficult to cure.

The first signs are small nodules about the size of a pin's head which the cat licks repeatedly and probably by this means the disease spreads to other parts of the body and develops into a wet (but not septic) area. The result is frequently the appearance of thick dry scales and a number of hairless patches. The condition may persist for months and is very hard to eliminate. Treatment consists of the daily application of '92 Ointment to the affected areas and 'Tibs' powders given regularly.

Eczema

True eczema in the cat is not of very common occurrence, and it should be understood that it is not a contagious disease. It arises from impure blood—

frequently the result of injudicious or over feeding. There are two distinct forms of eczema—wet and dry. In the case of wet eczema the hairs of the coat are gummed together whilst in the dry form the hairs fall off from the skin which becomes scaly or scurfy. In both forms there is much irritation. The treatment in either case is regular conditioning with 'Tibs' and careful attention to the diet eliminating all rich foods. '92 Ointment will afford relief to badly affected areas of the skin. Wet eczema should be treated with Bob Martin's Canker Powder for dogs which will relieve irritation and dry up the affected parts. *Note:*—'Tibs' Canker Powder is specially prepared for the treatment of ear canker in cats. Is NOT suitable as an application for eczema.

MANGE

As in dogs, two types of mange affect cats—follicular and sarcoptic mange. The former very rarely attacks cats but the latter is fairly common. It usually starts around the head and spreads to the neck and later to the body. The skin thickens, scales form and there is loss of hair. There is no redness but there is much irritation and the cat scratches a lot. True mange is difficult to cure completely because of the likelihood of re-infection from other areas of the body, but the best treatment is to apply Bob Martin's Antiseptic Fluid—diluted as instructed on the label—to the affected parts (do not treat more than a quarter of the body on one day). Wash off the Antiseptic Fluid about half an hour after applying and dry. This is important. '92 Ointment is a suitable dressing for the convalescent period. During the whole time 'Tibs' should be given daily to enable the cat to build up his strength.

RINGWORM

Ringworm is not very common in cats but it is important as it is contagious to humans so that an affected cat should on no account be petted or stroked. The symptoms are small raised spots which gradu-

ally enlarge and form crusts or they may become hollow. They rise off the skin and the hairs stick up through the crusts. If the crusts are pulled off they leave the moist surface below complete with hairs. The areas are not always circular and may be irregular in shape. The areas should be clipped, scales removed and all debris burnt before treatment. 1 per cent. Formalin solution (obtainable from any chemist) is an effective treatment and should be used until the affected parts clear up when 92 Ointment can be applied. After handling a cat infected with ringworm always disinfect your hands by washing in a solution of Bob Martin's Antiseptic Fluid.

Splinters in Pads

First remove any splinters, sharp stones, or glass which may be embedded in the pad, then apply '92 Ointment. Small wounds of this nature heal rapidly but should be kept free from dirt for at least twenty-four hours by means of a bandage or boot.

Stings

Dab weak household ammonia or washing soda on the place. A lump will form where the cat has been stung. To remove the sting gently squeeze the affected part. Cover the spot with a little '92 Ointment to relieve irritation.

Teeth

Kittens lose their " milk teeth " and develop their adult teeth between the ages of five and seven months. Sometimes kittens passing through this phase have convulsions. This is due to the replacement of teeth or sometimes to worms. If worms are present, dose as directed on page 45, after which give the patient a three week's course of ' Tibs.' Where possible, give green vegetables, also a regular dose of cod liver oil or halibut liver oil.

In adult cats, rubbing the mouth with the paws and excessive salivation are symptoms of toothache, a fragment of bone lodged between the teeth, or

throat trouble. The mouth should be examined for bone fragments, as described under "Choking" and decayed teeth should be extracted by a veterinary surgeon.

Pyorrhoea is common amongst cats especially those leading an indoor life. The gums become soft and spongy, have a pale anaemic appearance and may be ulcerated. The teeth look dirty and the breath has an offensive smell. Treatment is to rub the gums with one of the well known sodium ricinoleate tooth pastes (Gibbs S.R. or Solidox) two or three times daily. Cod liver oil should be given in addition to a regular course of 'Tibs' A veterinary surgeon should be consulted as the teeth may need scaling and any decayed teeth extracting.

Thirst (*Excessive*)

This may be an indication of kidney or liver troubles.

Tuberculosis

This complaint is much more common in cats than in dogs and is important as it can be transmitted to the human race—both children and adults.

It takes two forms in cats, tubercular peritonitis which is most common (see Dropsy) and pulmonary tuberculosis which is characterised by a soft easy cough and loss in weight. If tuberculosis is suspected a veterinary surgeon must be consulted.

Tumours

There are two kinds of tumour which are met with in cats—simple tumours and malignant tumours. The former class grows slowly and does not multiply while the latter grows rapidly and spreads quickly through the tissues. Simple tumours frequently grow in the breasts of queens. When any tumour is seen the assistance of a qualified veterinary surgeon should be sought.

Urination, Difficulty in (*See Cystitis*)

Worms

Two kinds of worms are found in cats, but the more common is the Round worm. Both Round and Tape worms have a serious effect on health, and sap a cat's vitality.

Round worms particularly infest kittens and young cats ; it is usually older cats which are affected by tape worms.

Tape worms grow long and ribbon-like, sometimes reaching a length of several feet. Often the dried up segments can be seen around an infected cat's hind quarters, or in his sleeping box.

Round worms, though comparatively small, form large clusters in the intestines. Both types cause severe pain and may lead to fits of hysteria and occasionally to death. Infestation with worms results chiefly from fleas which are harboured in the coat, and which act as intermediate hosts or from infected raw meat, particularly lights, offal and fish heads. If the latter are given they should first be boiled.

'Tibs' Worm Tablets have been made specially for the treatment of Round Worms in cats and kittens. They expel worms quickly without causing harsh griping or purging, and are easy to give. You should carefully follow the instructions on the leaflet accompanying the tablets.

Owners who realise the misery that cats suffer when infested with worms make a practice of worming their pets every two or three months. Experience shows the precaution to be a wise one. Should no worms be present the healthy cat suffers no inconvenience from a worming with 'Tibs' Worm Tablets.

Never worm kittens until they are at least twelve weeks old.

After worming it is important to tone up a cat's system by giving a course of 'Tibs' Powders. 'Tibs' will also help to replace the essential mineral salts extracted by the worms.

ADMINISTERING MEDICINES

THOSE who have tried giving medicine to cats will realise what a difficult task it is.

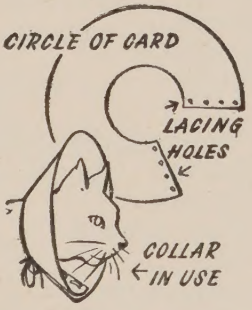
Tablets are probably most easily administered by opening the cat's mouth, inserting the tablet, and holding the mouth until he swallows. The cat's oesophagus is as large as a human one and he can take tablets readily.

To obtain success the operator should be patient, skilful and, above all, have a firm hold of the cat.

Wherever possible mix the medicine especially if a powder, in the food. This incorporation should be thorough and made out of sight of the patient. A tablet can be disguised in a highly flavoured piece of food, or by powdering it and mixing it into a paste with a little Bovril or crushed sardine. Cats are very finicky and once their suspicion is aroused they become distrustful of everything that is given to them.

BANDAGING

A 'MANY-TAIL' bandage is the most convenient to use on cats as it can be applied to most parts of the body, and in view of its 'many-tails' can be fixed so firmly (but without causing discomfort to the cat) that it cannot be removed by a fractious patient. Such a bandage can be applied to most parts of the body to prevent the cat licking off ointment or licking wounds.



A cardboard collar as shown in the illustration is useful to prevent the cat scratching its ear in cases of Canker, etc.

TAR AND PAINT

To remove tar or paint easily, apply butter, ground nut (arachis) oil, or olive oil freely to the affected areas of the skin with a rag, and wipe carefully. This will remove most of the tar or paint. The application of oil or fat should be repeated if necessary.

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'TIBS' PREPARATIONS *for* CATS

'TIBS' CAT POWDERS 'TIBS' COUGH POWDERS

'TIBS' WORM TABLETS 'TIBS' CANKER POWDER

'PREEN' DRY CLEANING POWDER

The following Bob Martin preparations provide the correct treatment for your cat in appropriate cases. You can obtain them wherever you buy 'Tibs' products.

DISTEMPER POWDERS APERIENT POWDERS

STOMACH POWDER '92 OINTMENT EYE DROPS

ANTISEPTIC FLUID (*Incorporating D.D.T.*)

PESTROY (*Incorporating D.D.T.*)

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